

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of using a metered size press to ~~producing~~ produce a coated paper suitable for rotogravure printing that comprises the steps of:

(a) ~~Preparing~~ preparing an aqueous coating formulation comprising: (i) water, (ii) a first pigment having a shape factor of greater than about 15 or mixture thereof with one ~~of~~ or more second pigments having a shape factor equal to or less than about 15 and having a pigment particle size distribution wherein at least about 80% by weight of the pigment particles have an equivalent spherical diameter of less than 2 microns, and (iii) a polymeric binder;

(b) ~~Using~~ using a metered size press to apply the aqueous coating formulation to one or both surfaces of a paper substrate having Gurley Porosity of from about 20 sec/100 ml to about 60 sec/100 ml;

(c) ~~Drying~~ drying the coated paper to a moisture level of less than about 9%; and

(d) ~~Calendaring~~ calendaring the dried coated paper to form a ~~form~~ a dried calendared paper having a smoothness (Parker at 10 kgf/cm², microns) value equal to or less than 1.5 and a Heliotest (mm) value equal to or greater than about 89.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein, the pigments comprising the pigment mixture have ~~an~~ a shape factor of about 1:15 to 1:80.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the aqueous coating formulation has a solids content of about 50% to 65% by weight.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the weight of the coating on a side of the paper is about 7 grams per square meter.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the aqueous coating formulation further comprises a lubricant.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the aqueous coating formulation further comprises a thickener.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the aqueous coating formulation further comprises a coating structure builder.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the aqueous coating formulation further comprises a release agent.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the metered size press applies the aqueous coating formulation to the paper at a speed of about 1500 meters per minute.

10. (Withdrawn) A coated paper suitable for use in rotogravure printing, the paper comprising:

(a) A paper substrate having a Gurley Porosity of from about 20 sec/100 ml to about 60 sec/100 ml and

(b) A coating on at least one side of said paper substrate, said coating comprising (i) Preparing an aqueous coating formulation comprising: (i) water, (ii) a first pigment having a shape factor of greater than about 15 or about 17 or mixture thereof with one of more second pigments having a shape factor less than that of the first clay pigment and equal to or less than about 15 to about 17 and having a pigment particle size distribution wherein at least about 80%, and (ii) a polymeric binder,

Said paper having a smoothness (Parker at 10 kgf/cm², microns) value equal to or less than about 1.5 and a Heliotest (mm) value equal to or greater than about 80.

11. (Withdrawn) An aqueous coating formulation comprising: (i) water, (ii) Preparing an aqueous coating formulation comprising: (i) water, (ii) a first pigment having a shape factor of greater than about 15 or about 17 or mixture thereof with one of more second pigments having a shape factor less than that of the first clay pigment and equal to or less than about 15 to about 17 and having a pigment particle size distribution wherein at least about 80%, and (ii) a polymeric binder.